GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1129
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2000
E.D. POST OFFICES
JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Extra Departmental post offices, post masters and postmen in the country;

(b) the salaries and facilities provided to them separately;

(c) whether the condition of these employees is the same as it was in before independence except some increase in their salaries;

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to bring improvement in their condition;

(e) whether there is any rule for regularising these employees; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) As on 31.3.1999, the number of ED post offices, ED Postmasters and ED Postmen was as under:

i) ED Post Offices(EDBO & EDSO) 1,28,193
ii) ED Postmasters(EDBPM & EDSPM) 1,27,502
iii) ED Postmen 78,628

(b) The extra Departmental Agents are entitled to Time Related Continuity Allowance (TRCA) and other facilities & benefits as per details given below:

i) TRCA for EDMCs/ED Packers/ED Runners, ED Messengers and all other categories of ED Agents:

-For those with workload up to 3 hrs. 45 minutes - Rs. 1220-20-1600
-For those with workload more than 3 hrs. 45 minutes - Rs. 1545-25-2020

TRCA for EDDAs/EDSVs:

-For those with workload up to 3 hrs. 45 minutes - Rs. 1375-25-2125
-For those with workload more than 3 hrs. 45 minutes - Rs. 1740-30-2640

TRCA for EDBPMs:

-For those with workload up to 3 hrs. 45minutes - Rs. 1280-35-1980
-For those with workload more than 3 hrs. 45 minutes - Rs. 1600-40-2400

TRCA for EDSPMs:

-For those up to 5 hrs. per day - Rs. 2125-50-3125

ii). Other facilities & benefits:

As a result of Government decision on the recommendations of Justice Talwar Committee in fulland final settlement of all related pending demands the package of benefits extended to ED agents vide order dated 17.12.1998 includes, besides payment of arrears for the period 1.1.96 to 28.2.98, introduction of Time Related Continuity Allowance as detailed above, increasing limit of ex-gratia gratuity from Rs. 6000/- to Rs. 18000/- provision of paid leave for 10 days for each half year without facility of carry forward, increase in the amount of office maintenance allowance from Rs. 25/- per month to Rs. 50/- per month for EDBPMs, and paymentbf lump sum Severance amount of Rs. 20,000/- or Rs. 30.000/- depending on the period ofemployment of ED agents on discharge from office at the age of 65 years or after absorption against regular posts, as a form of post employment benefit. In addition, the ED agents are also paid Productivity Incentive(Bonus), Dearness Allowance, Delivery Allowance, CombinedDuty Allowance and Cycle Allowance. In case of death in harness of an ED Agent, his dependent is considered for compassionate appointment.

(c) & (d) No Sir, on the analogy of Pay Commission set up for examining the serviceconditions of Central Government employees, Committees have been set up on Postal ED Systemto go into the wage structure and conditions of employment of ED Agents and pursuant to recommendations of these Committees, a wide variety of facilities & benefits have been extended to ED Agents over the years apart from increase in allowance. Improving the terms and conditions of engagement of ED Agents including betterment of their prospects is a continuing exercise.

(e) & (f) Yes Sir, Provisions already exist in the rules of recruitment to the cadres of Group`D`, Postmen and Postal Assistants/Sorting Assistants for giving specific preference to ED Agents who satisfy the eligibility conditions.